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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/820,383	07/26/2000	Peter Schroeder	06618/580001/CIT3149	8151

7590 05/19/2003

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EXAMINER

VO, CLIFF N

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2671	8

DATE MAILED: 05/19/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/820,383	Applicant(s) SCHROEDER ET AL.	
	Examiner CLIFF N VO	Art Unit 2671	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____ .
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-5, 13 and 15 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 2-6 and 14 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ . |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) <u>5</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

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DETAILED ACTION

1. The IDS paper filed July 2, 2001 has been received and placed in the record of file.

Specification

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: there are two claims numbered as 13.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

As per claim 15 (line 9), the term "said information" lacks clear antecedent basis.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371© of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

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The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

5. Claims 1-5, 13 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hoppe (U.S. Patent No. 6,046,744).

As per independent claim 1, Hoppe discloses a method and system for selectively refining of the progressive meshes comprising a step of determining a function which approximates some aspect of the surface (col.29, lines 9-41), and a step of defining the surface in terms of one scalar per point relative to the function (col.27, lines 49-65; col.29, lines 9-41).

As per dependent claim 2, Hoppe further teaches wherein the defining comprises defining a coarse representation and subsequently increasing a resolution of the coarse representation to a finer representation (col.13, lines 25-35).

As per dependent claim 3, Hoppe further teach wherein the coefficients of the finer representation are all scalar function (col.14, lines 47-67).

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As per dependent claim 4, Hoppe further teaches wherein the coefficients of the finer representation confine a residual area to a normal direction of the surface (col.15, lines 42-64; col.29, lines 8-24).

As per dependent claim 5, Hoppe further teaches wherein the surface is defined by a parametric function (col.13, lines 25-45).

As per independent claim 13 (first one), Hoppe further teaches the features as now claimed at col.9, line 51 through col.10, line 6; col.29, lines 8-55.

As per independent claim 15, Hoppe further teaches the features as now claimed at col.15, line 3 through col.16, line 16.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 6-12 and 14 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cliff N. Vo whose telephone number is (703) 305-9594. He can normally be reached Monday-Friday and alternate Monday from 8:00am-5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Zimmerman, can be reached at (703) 305-9798. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 305-9724.


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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3800.

5/3/2003


CLIFF N. VO
PRIMARY EXAMINER